



Washington State Commission on

Asian Pacific American Affairs

Leader in
ADVOCACY

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E-Legislative Update

May 13, 2013



On April 28th, Governor Inslee issued a [proclamation](#) calling the Legislature into a special session. May 13th marked the beginning of the special legislative session which is limited to 30 days. The Legislature convenes to negotiate a budget that both legislative bodies can support. Governor Inslee said that while budget writers keep working toward a deal, he wants lawmakers to address policy issues during the special session.

The House proposes spending \$34.5 billion, more than \$1 billion beyond the proposal approved by the Senate. The House proposal would increase K-12 education funding by \$1.3 billion while the Senate would increase it by \$1 billion to address the State Supreme Court ruling. The House proposal supports repealing or narrowing 15 tax exemptions while the Senate proposal does not. The House proposal preserves more funding for human services compared to the Senate's proposal. Both the House and Senate proposals opt into Medicaid expansion under the new Affordable Care Act. The Senate proposal would repeal the cost-of-living adjustments for teachers, while the House suspends it. Budget proposals can be viewed [here](#).

Because the state budget is an overarching issue, the Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs will provide updates on important milestones in budget development as well as focus on bills that impact the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in the areas of education, health care, human services, economic development, and immigration.

You can [contact your legislator](#) making your position on the budget or a bill known. You can do so by writing a letter, sending an e-mail, calling the legislator's Olympia office, or by calling the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000.

The Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs will be providing information through our [e-legislative update](#) and website. Our e-legislative update provides a general overview highlighting a few bills of interest to the community while our website hosts a more extensive list of bills utilizing a [bill tracking](#) feature for those community members seeking more information. Highlights from the previous week can be viewed on [TVW's](#) Legislative Review.

Bills passed by the legislature and delivered to the Governor can be viewed [here](#).

Information is current as of: May 14, 2013.

To find out more information on a particular bill, please visit <http://www.leg.wa.gov>.

CAPAA was established by the state legislature in 1974 to improve the well-being of Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) by insuring their access to participation in the fields of government, business, education, and other areas. It has a board made up of 12-governor appointed members that represent the diverse APA communities of Washington State.

To receive more electronic updates, visit us at <http://www.capaa.wa.gov>. To unsubscribe, [click here](#).